ROAD-ZANESVILLE TO COLUMBUS.

RETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING A REPORT ON THE SUBJECT OF

THE NATIONAL ROAD

BETWEEN

ZANESVILLE AND COLUMBUS.

JANUARY 3, 1827.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals.

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY GALES & SEATON.

1826.

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DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

December 28, 1826.

Sin: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a report of the Chief Engineer, of this date, accompanied by a copy of a report of the Commissioner for locating the National Road between Zanesville and Columbus, exhibiting the results of an examination of a route for the road between those places, by the way of Newark, and beg leave to refer to the latter as the document called for by the resolution of the House of Representatives, dated the 26th instant.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant, JAMES BARBOUR.

The Hon. John W. Taylor,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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Engineer Department,

December 28, 1826.

Sir: In pursuance of your directions, to furnish a copy of the report of Mr. Jonathan Knight, Commissioner, dated the 15th of August last, exhibiting the results of an examination of a route for the National Road between Zanesville and Columbus, by the way of Newark, with a view to its being communicated to the House of Representatives, to fulfil the object of its resolution, dated the 26th instant, I have the honor to present the same herewith.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEX. MACOMB,

Maj. Gen. Chief Eng.

The Hon. J. BARBOUR, Secretary of War. Comment of the second COLUMBUS, Ohio, August 15, 1826.

Major General Alexander Macomb, Chief Engineer.

On the evening of the 13th instant we arrived in this place, having completed the Newark reconnoissance in the order following, viz:

1st. A route from Zanesville to Newark, lying mostly on the South side of Licking creek, but crossing it about two and an half miles Eastward from Newark, and commencing on the route which I reported last year at the total seven and a fourth miles on that route.

2d. A route between Zanesville and Newark, lying altogether North of said creek, and along its valley, crossing the Rocky Fork, and uniting with the preceding route on the East bank of the North fork of said creek at Newark. This route, though the levellest, is nearly two miles longer than the preceding one.

3d. A route crossing the North fork, passing through Newark, crossing the Raccoon fork of Licking, and thence the most direct route towards Columbus to a point about fifteen miles Westward from

Newark.

4th. Another route between the same two points, and crossing the same streams, but passing through the village of Granville, and nearly along the present travelled road. This route curves much to the North, and is about one mile longer than the preceding one.

5th. Thence from the said point (about fifteen miles Westward from Newark.) to the town of Columbus along the State road, which is near-

ly on a straight line, and entering at "Broad street."

Nos. 1, 3, 5, compose the shortest route through Newark, situated about twenty-three miles from Zanesville, and thirty-two from Columbus. Total by the shortest route from Zanesville to Columbus, through Newark, fifty-five miles, which is about two and one-eighth miles longer than the route which I reported last year, and which passes about seven miles South of Newark.

We have not yet made the comparisons strictly, but the Newark route will be the levellest, having about two miles less of extreme grade, and something less of cutting and filling to overcome the uneven ground. The Newark route will have the most bridging.

In these reconnoissances I have been much aided by Lieutenant Trimble, whose services will be very valuable on the work we shall

immediately commence West of Columbus.

I have had the satisfaction to receive Captain Smith's letter from the Engineer Department approbatory of my report on the location East of Zanesville.

Very respectfully,

J. KNIGHT.

NOTE. I have taken the survey of Judge Holmes, of Newark, for the basis of my reconnoissances between Zanesville and Columbus, through Newark—have no reason to doubt the accuracy of the Judge's survey, but will nevertheless test it with my own made on the reported route.

J. K.

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